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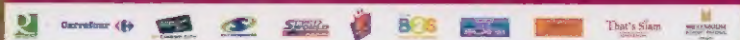
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## Pud Jow Shrine

Near Jui Tui Shrine on Ranong Road find Pud Jow Shrine which was built over a century ago. Many Chinese deities revered by Hokkien people are housed here. The principle deity, Kuan Im Tai Sow La is believed to protect you from devils, while Sid Sae Niaw is the god of all creatures and Ju Se Niaw as the god of deed records of humans is believed to bestow babies to those who wish for this.

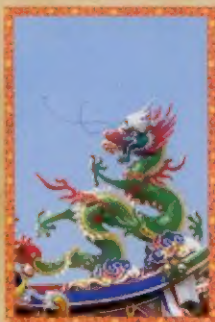
## Jui Tui Tao Bo Keng Shrine

Many attend this shrine for their physical health. It is a base for those serious worshippers during the Vegetarian Festival.



## Shrine of Serene Light

A treasure easily missed! Built in 1889, (2432 on the Buddhist calendar), the Shrine of Serene Light, a Taoist temple, was constructed by a local Hokkien Chinese family. The interior wall murals tell many stories of Si-in-gui, a legendary folk hero. Chinese characters on the two side walls are blessings for healing and good luck. The garden in front provides a calm sanctuary from the bustle of the city. See the main Phuket Town Map for a secret passage.



## Bang Niew Shrine.

Built in 1934 (2477 on the Buddhist calendar), this shrine, also named Tao Bong Keng Shrine or Chai Tueng, houses Phra Tian Hu Nguan Sow (Lao la) as the principle deity. Worship Tai Song Sam Tong Ong deity for professional prosperity.



## Lim Hu Thai Su Shrine

Completed in 1994 (2537 on the Buddhist calendar), visitors come here to worship Lim Hu Deity. Located in the Sam Kong area of Phuket town, the local name is Sam Kong Shrine.



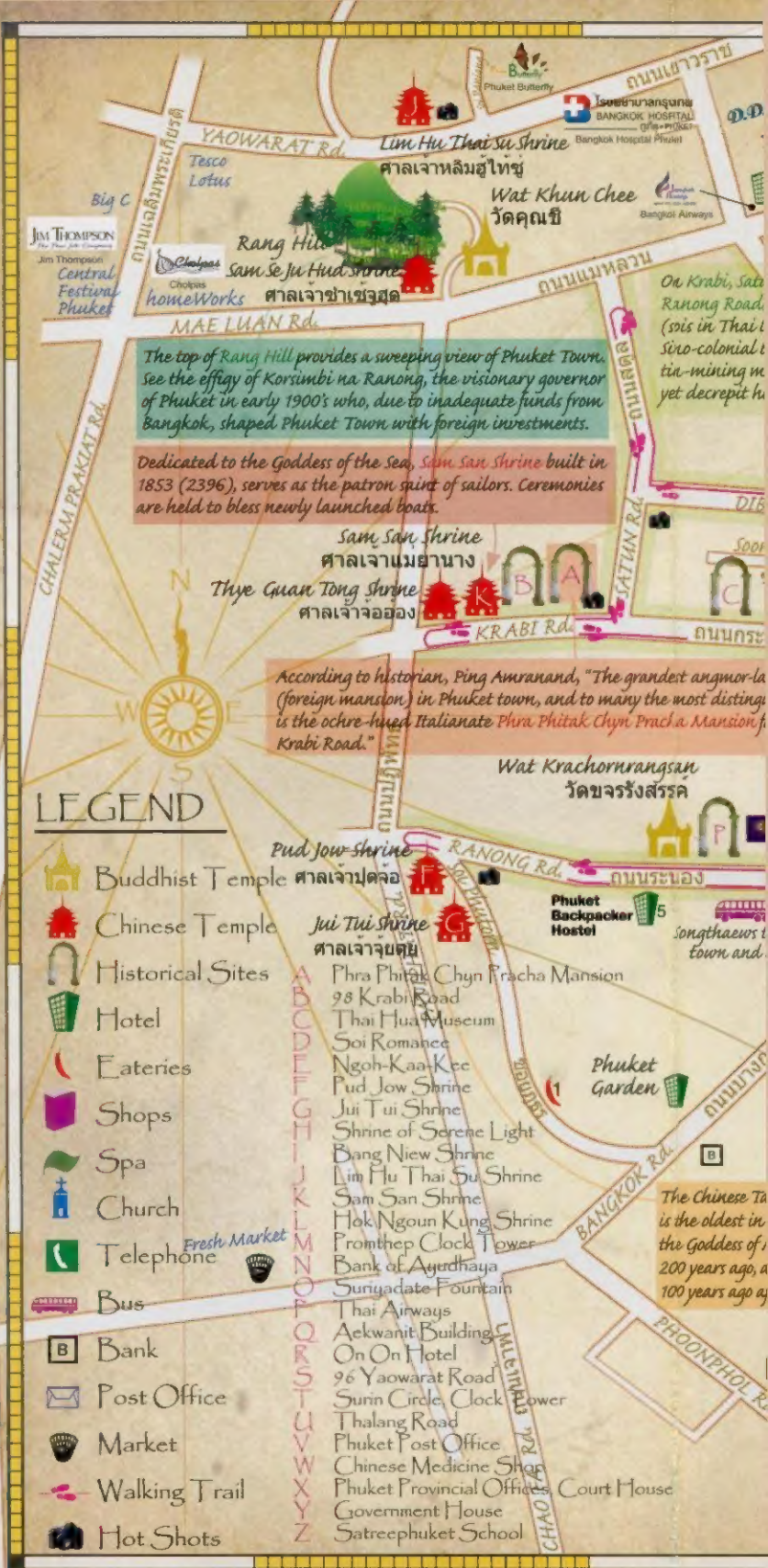
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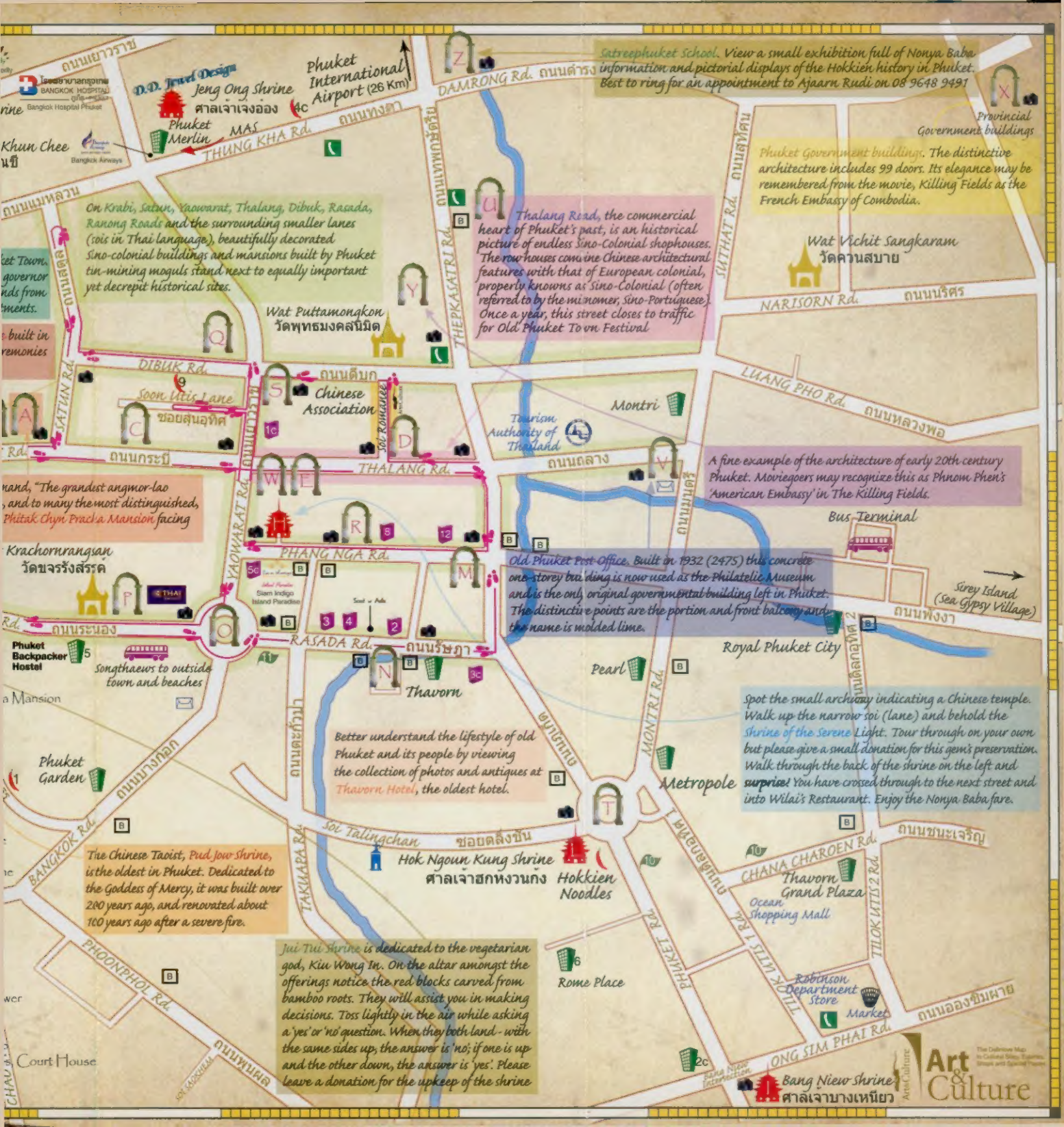
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Khun Chee

On Krabi, Satun, Yaowarat, Thalang, Dibuk, Rasada, Ranong Roads and the surrounding smaller lanes (sois in Thai language), beautifully decorated Sino-colonial buildings and mansions built by Phuket tin-mining moguls stand next to equally important yet decrepit historical sites.

built in remonies

mand, "The grandest angkor-lao, and to many the most distinguished, Phitak Chyn Pracha Mansion facing

Krachornrangsak วัดพระรังสรรค์

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Phuket Garden

The Chinese Taoist, Pudi Jow Shrine, is the oldest in Phuket. Dedicated to the Goddess of Mercy, it was built over 200 years ago, and renovated about 100 years ago after a severe fire.

Court House

Jeng Ong Shrine ศาลเจ้าเจียงอึ้ง  
Phuket Merlin MAS

Phuket International Airport (26 Km)

Wat Puttamongkon วัดพุทธมงคลนิมิต

Chinese Association

Phang Nga Rd

Rasada Rd

Thavorn

Better understand the lifestyle of old Phuket and its people by viewing the collection of photos and antiques at Thavorn Hotel, the oldest hotel.

Hok Ngoun Kung Shrine ศาลเจ้าฮกฮกวงก้ง

Hokkien Noodles

Rome Place

Thalang Road, the commercial heart of Phuket's past, is an historical picture of endless Sino-Colonial shophouses. The row houses combine Chinese architectural features with that of European colonial, properly known as Sino-Colonial (often referred to by the misnomer, Sino-Portuguese). Once a year, this street closes to traffic for Old Phuket Town Festival

Tourism Authority of Thailand

Montri

Old Phuket Post Office. Built in 1932 (2475) this concrete one-storey building is now used as the Philatelic Museum and is the only original governmental building left in Phuket. The distinctive points are the portion and front balcony and the name is molded lime.

Royal Phuket City

Metropole

Spot the small archway indicating a Chinese temple. Walk up the narrow soi (lane) and behold the Shrine of the Serene Light. Tour through on your own but please give a small donation for this gem's preservation. Walk through the back of the shrine on the left and surprise! You have crossed through to the next street and into Wilai's Restaurant. Enjoy the Nonya Baba fare.

Thavorn Grand Plaza Ocean Shopping Mall

Robinson Department Store

Bang Niew Shrine ศาลเจ้าบางเหนียว

Art & Culture

Satrephuket School. View a small exhibition full of Nonya Baba information and pictorial displays of the Hokkien history in Phuket. Best to ring for an appointment to Ajaarn Rudi on 08 9648 9491

Phuket Government buildings. The distinctive architecture includes 99 doors. Its elegance may be remembered from the movie, Killing Fields as the French Embassy of Cambodia.

Wat Vichit Sangkaram วัดวิชิตสังคาราม

A fine example of the architecture of early 20th century Phuket. Moviegoers may recognize this as Phnom Phen's 'American Embassy' in The Killing Fields.

Bus Terminal

Sirey Island (Sea Gypsy Village)

The Colours Map to Colours Map, Thailand, Street and Special Towns



# Culture Corner

## Old Phuket Town Walking Trails

A journey into Phuket Town's past begins with a walk — one that encompasses treasures easily missed from the back seat of a taxi. This isn't a strenuous stroll — about 2km, however a real cultural delight. Let the MAP guide you along for historic buildings, shops, eateries and special places.

Follow the trail starting at the Welcome Center (under construction, previously the Police Station) **M** (Intersection Phang Nga and Phuket roads). Facing south, walk the block and around the corner onto Rasada Road. Follow it up to Suriyadate Fountain **O** past the award-winning Bank of Ayudhaya, Sino-Colonial building (on left) **N**. Continuing straight up on Ranong Road takes you through the Fresh Market which is now under construction. Turn left at Soi Phutorn to Pud Jow Shrine **F** and Jui Tui Shrine **G**.


You may choose to loop around from the Suriyadate Fountain onto Yaowarat Road, instead. Decide if you will go straight along or right onto Phang Nga Road. If you look carefully on Phang Nga's north side, about 50m from the corner of Yaowarat Road T-junction, you should spot a small archway indicating a Chinese shrine (some folks have lived here for years and missed this treat). Walk up the narrow soi (lane) and behold the Shrine of Serene Light **H**. There is a surprise here! See details on the map.

Further on Phang Nga, note the historic On On Hotel **R** where the opening scenes of the movie, *The Beach* were filmed. One street north running parallel to Phang Nga road, Thalang Road **U** is a splendid example of Sino-Colonial architecture, dating back to early 20<sup>th</sup> century. As you pass, take a moment to appreciate the flavour of old Phuket. See if you can spot some of the actual architectural characteristics listed on this map. You will see also — or perhaps first smell — Guan Choon Tong, an established Chinese herbal medicine shop **W**.

Soi Romanee, Satun, Ranong, Dibuk, Yaowarat roads and up Rang Hill all add their own charm to beloved Phuket Town. On Krabi Road find two grand mansions **A&C**.

Phuket Island is a brilliant blend of fine beaches, azure seas and its little known captivating cultural tin-mining history. A walk in 'Old Phuket' Town reflects the diverse past of its multicultural heritage.

Our goal is achieved if you take home only a richer understanding of this Sino past and a few new tangible treasures, of course!

See the MAP for this symbol.  This will guide you to some of the 'HOT SPOTS' for HOT SHOTS.

Special thanks to:

Dr Yongsak Pongpatthan, Faculty of Architecture and Planning, Thammasat University, Bangkok, advisor of historical buildings and author of many articles for LPH/ACU newsletters and other publications and of the valuable booklet **OLD PHUKET TOWN TRAIL**, Ping Anprapai, author of **ANDAMAN STYLE**, Art & Design in Peninsular Siam

Cover:

Chinese time trail is a time for family get-togethers and generations. Sun & food is enjoyed and visitors to the shores, wherever. Our Cover features windows of Shrine of Serene Light in Phuket Town.

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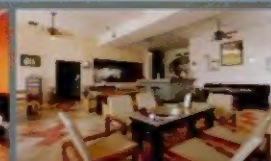
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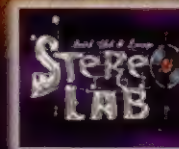


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4c

## 'Job' and Things

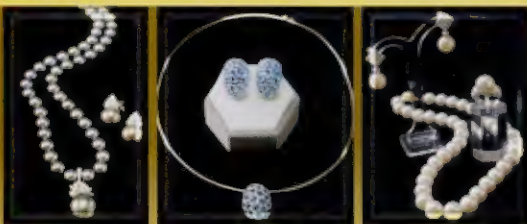
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Statues of Kanying Jan and Thao Sri Sunton (Mook) known as the Heroines Monument, is host to many locals who pay their respects to their admirable ancestors.

As the island's governor had just passed away, organising Phuket's defence against the Burmese invasion in 1785 was conducted by his widow, Kanying Jan. With her sister, Mook's help, they assembled what force they had, then cleverly disguised local women as male soldiers, thus appearing to increase Phuket's military manpower.

After a month's siege, the Burmese tired, lost heart and left. King Rama 1 awarded Kanying Jan with the royal title of *Thao Thep Kasattri*.



**Thalang National Museum.** In 1985, on the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Thalang War, the Thalang National Museum was established. The museum is a monument honouring two courageous women, *Kanying Jan* and *Thao Sri Sunton* (see Heroine's Monument). In addition, *Luan* it is a storehouse of history, archaeology and culture of Phuket Province and its surrounds.

**Kathu Mining Museum.** Opening later this year, however pre-viewings by appointment. Tel: 076 321 073, Fax: 076 322 126  
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www.kathuinfo.com

**Junk Ceylon.** In the third century A.D., Ptolemy, a Greek geographer, referred to Phuket as *Jang Si Lang* - which later became *Junk Ceylon*. This name appears on ancient maps of Thailand or Siam.

Phuket Province  
Junk Ceylon (Phuket)

Art & Culture



## PHUKET TOWN'S SINO-COLONIAL PAST

During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Hokkien Chinese immigrants arrived in Phuket following new opportunities in tin-mining. Phuket was an important trade centre for Indian, Malay, Arab and European traders who exchanged goods from the rest of the world for tin and rubber.

### A Phra Phitak Chyn Pracha Mansion

9 Krabi Road. The owner, a Phuket born Chinese man (the mansion is named for him) owned many tin mines in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century heyday. This grand angmor lao (foreign mansion) has been uninhabited for many years. Bearing the lucky #9, this estate, during the days of King Rama V and VI, was used as a meeting place. Although a private property, you can walk by the gate and view the surreal setting. Note the Doric styling in the three sets of archways.



### Thai Hua Museum

Built in 1911 (2454) and known as Hua Boon School and Shrine - a Chinese Language School of the highest levels. In 1946 (2489), the name changed to Phuket Jung Hua School and again in 1948 to Thai Hua School. A second storey was built in 1934 (2477). Notice the three

archways with Ionic and Corinthian detailing. The walls feature the Renaissance period, while the window frames are Roman styling. Bat motifs, a symbol of goodness are stucco aspects in the outer ceilings.

### Promthep Clock Tower (Promthep Information Center)

Built during WWI, 1914 (2457), the clock tower towered as a four storey structure without a clock for 62 years. The original clock brought from Europe never made it due to the ship sinking. A clock finally arrived in 1976, through Lion's Club Phuket donations. Notice the roof resembles an old style police cap.



## Architectural Features

Hailing from southern China, Hokkien immigrants brought the distinctive row house or shop house architectural styling with them changing the face of Phuket Town.



The row houses, long and narrow, combined Chinese influences with features of the European Classic and Roman periods, producing a new style of buildings in peninsular Siam.

Known as Sino-European or Sino-Colonial styling, molded lime patterns, wooden inlaid doors with Chinese characters share with European designs of Corinthian columns or Doric decoration.

Now, over a century post Chinese migration, when tin-mining made many wealthy merchants, revitalization of the town's spirit is shaping a new era. Revival of Phuket's Soul! The renaissance speaks of beloved, distinctive characteristics.



The Dragon Within. Notice that many building fronts resemble a Dragon's face. The eyes - big side windows, while the door becomes the mouth and eyebrows are the smaller shaped, higher set windows.

### Ngoh-Kaa-Kee

As a strong feature of the unique Sino-Colonial architecture, 'the five-foot way', arcade or ngoh-kaa-kee is the high roof covered, curved archway that cleverly joins one shop house to the next. This walkway allows the visitor to browse many adjoining shops without exposure to the weather. You may spot some archways that have been closed in and others, under municipal conservation programs, voluntarily being re-opened.



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